

DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe the below named inventors are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **YEAST STRAINS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LACTIC ACID**, the Specification of which was filed on **March 7, 2000** as Application Serial No. **09/508,277**.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 and/or § 365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, PCT international application(s), and United States provisional application(s), listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, PCT international application, or United States provisional application, having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			Priority Claimed
PCT/EP98/05758	PCT	September 11, 1998	Yes
(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No
MI97A002080	Italy	September 12, 1997	Yes
(Number)	(Country)	(Date Filed)	Yes/No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 and/or § 365 of any United States application(s) and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application, as "materiality" is defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, which becomes available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

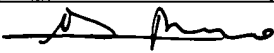
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)


I hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls be addressed to Raymund F. Eich, Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C., 7676 Hillmont, Suite 250, Houston, Texas 77040, (713) 934-4065.

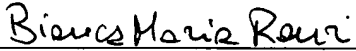
I HEREBY DECLARE THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE OF MY OWN KNOWLEDGE ARE TRUE AND THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF ARE BELIEVED TO BE TRUE;

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AND FURTHER THAT THESE STATEMENTS WERE MADE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS AND THE LIKE SO MADE ARE PUNISHABLE BY FINE OR IMPRISONMENT, OR BOTH, UNDER SECTION 1001 OF TITLE 18 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE AND THAT SUCH WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS MAY JEOPARDIZE THE VALIDITY OF THE APPLICATION OR ANY PATENT ISSUED THEREON.

Inventor's Full Name:	DANILO		PORRO
Inventor's Signature:			
Country of Citizenship:	Italy	Date:	01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above		

Inventor's Full Name:	MICHELE		BIANCHI
Inventor's Signature:			
Country of Citizenship:	Italy	Date:	01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above		

Inventor's Full Name:	BIANCA	MARIA	RANZI
Inventor's Signature:			
Country of Citizenship:	Italy	Date:	01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above		

Inventor's Full Name:	LAURA		FRONTALI
Inventor's Signature:	<i>Laura Frontali</i>		
Country of Citizenship:	Italy	Date:	01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above		

Inventor's Full Name:	MARINA		VAI
Inventor's Signature:	<i>Marina VAI</i>		
Country of Citizenship:	Italy	Date:	01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above		

Inventor's Full Name:	AARON	ADRIAN	WINKLER
Inventor's Signature:	<i>Aaron Adrian Winkler</i>		
Country of Citizenship:	Netherlands	Date:	01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy		
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above		

Inventor's Full Name:	LILIA	ALBERGHINA
Inventor's Signature:	<i>Lilia Alberghina</i>	
Country of Citizenship:	Italy	Date: 01.06.2000
Residence Address: (street, number, city, state, and/or country)	Via Gaspare Gozzi, 8, Milano, Italy	
Post Office Address: (if different from above)	same as above	

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